

in the seventh and first in the eighth grade, while in history the student stood second in the fifth, sixth and seventh grades and fourth in the eighth grade. In 1931 and 1932 the results were even higher.

All the activities of these schools, here only briefly suggested, constitute Park City one of the most interesting educational centers of the state and they throw into prominence Mr. Alston as one of the most dynamic school men of the intermountain country.

FRANK DEFA was born in the City of Rome, Italy, February 14, 1880, and became a resident of Utah when he was a lad of twelve years. Here his record has been one of exceptionally interesting order and has shown splendid energy and resourcefulness on his part. He is now one of the notably successful ranchers and merchants of Duchesne County, where his fine ranch is situated about midway between the villages of Hanna and Tabiona. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Defa, passed their entire lives in Italy, and he himself there received his early education. One of his older brothers preceded him to the United States, and he was twelve years of age at the time of his arrival as a stranger in a strange land. During a period of two years he sold newspapers and polished shoes at the corner of Cleveland and High streets in Salt Lake City, and he then entered upon an apprenticeship to the trade of machinist in railroad shops in that city. At the age of nineteen years he returned to Italy for a visit and was seized by the government to render military service. While in this service he was assigned duty as interpreter in the City of Naples, by reason of his ability to speak several languages, and this service was mainly rendered for the convenience of tourists. At the expiration of his term of military service he had a fund of \$3,000, and decided to tour Europe before returning to the United States. He thus traveled extensively in France, Spain and other countries, besides visiting Constantinople, and fifteen months after receiving his discharge from military service he again arrived in Salt Lake City. In the meanwhile he had spent virtually his entire fund of savings. During the ensuing three years he was again employed in the local railroad shops, and in the meanwhile he was joined by his bride, whom he had wedded while in his native land. Upon the opening to settlement of the former Indian reservation that now included Duchesne County he and his wife came to the new district to seek their fortunes, their total capital at the time having been about \$400. Through his knowledge of the Spanish language he was able to converse in the same with some of the Indians of the locality, and he learned from them that they had for sale a number of wild horses. He consulted with Edward Murdock, a business man of a neighboring settlement, to whom he agreed to deliver such horses at the rate of ten dollars a head. He purchased horses from the Indians at about five dollars each, and during his first year on the former reservation he accumulated about \$2,000 by his operations along this line. He then turned his attention to dealing in cattle and sheep. Each fall he would buy both ewes and lambs, and early in the spring he would shear



FRANK DEFA

the ewes and sell them for summer ranging. As the country developed and attracted new settlers, Mr. Defa opened a general store and gas station, later a garage and a restaurant, and still later the finest dance hall and theater in this part of the state. He has, in fact, built a village of his own. A splendid mountain stream affords power for the operation of his private electric plant, which lights his village, besides supplying frigidaire power and other modern power facilities. Mr. Defa owns and operates a fine ranch of 400 acres and on the same breeds pure-blood Cottswold sheep, his flock of 200 such sheep at the present time being of the finest type, and there being constant local demand on the part of sheep men in this section for his high-grade Cottswold bucks.

It was in the year 1905 that Mr. Defa came to the former Indian reservation and became a pioneer homesteader in what is now Duchesne County, as one of the first settlers. The United States soldiers were just leaving the reservation at the time of his arrival. About this time a man named Stockmore was granted a tract of 320 acres not far from the Defa homestead and proceeded to lay out a townsite and sell lots. This undertaking brought many prospective settlers into the district, and as this was prior to the national prohibition era Mr. Defa opened a saloon in a tent and developed a prosperous business.

In Italy was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Defa to Miss Mary Paraco, and they have five children: Joseph, Leo, Alphonso, Rosa and Theresa. The family home is one of attractive order and is known for its generous hospitality and good cheer.

Obituaries



Alma Hicken **Duke**

HEBER CITY—Alma Hicken Duke, age 80, died April 29, 1985 at his home in Santa Clara, Utah. Born Nov. 25, 1904 in Heber City to Lawrence Brigham and Sarah Catherine Hicken Duke. Married Carroll Violet Slaughter Dec. 23, 1937 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple.

Mr. Duke was an active member of the LDS Church having served as a missionary to St. John's New Brunswick, Canada 1931-1933, Counselor in Wendover, Utah Ward Bishopric, Counselor in Wasatch Stake High Priest Presidency, Deacon Quorum Advisor, Sunday School Teacher, Project Temple Instructor, Regular Temple Worker and home teacher.

Graduate of Wasatch High School. He attended BYU for one year. He lived most of his life in Heber City, was active in the Democratic party in Wasatch County, served as Justice of the Peace. He was a trucker, farmer and timberman. He and his wife moved to Santa Clara to retire in 1978.

Survivors: wife, Santa Clara; Children: Dr. Earl Lawrence Duke, Logan; Dr. Dean Woodrow Duke, St. George; Mrs. Stuart (Carma) Johnson, Aurora, Sevier Co.; Mrs. David (Di Ann) Turner and Jon Robert Duke, Heber City; 30 grandchildren; Brothers and Sisters: Woodrow Duke, Mrs. Ray (Lola) Berg and Mrs. LaMar (Enid) Watkins all of Heber City; Dr. Marden Duke,

Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. James (Jennie) Carlson, Denver, Colo.; Mrs. Marshall (Nellie) Hollingshead, Minersville, Beaver Co.

Preceded in death by a son Alma Carroll and two brothers Howard and Brigham.

Funeral services Saturday 1:00 p.m. Heber First Ward Chapel. Friends may call at Olpin Mortuary, Heber City Friday 7:00-9:00 p.m. and at the church Saturday prior to services. Burial Heber City Cemetery.

The family suggests contributions be made to the Heart Disease Research Foundation.



PHILLIP WILLIAM EDWARDS

Philip William Edwards was born February 7, 1864, at Salt Lake City, a son of Phillip and Mary Simmons Edwards. He married Bertha Webster, December 19, 1888, at Heber City.

Philip William Edwards moved to Charleston with his parents in April 1883. He worked in Daniels Canyon getting logs and sawing them into lumber to build his home.

Philip and Bertha received their endowments on October 29, 1890, in the Logan Temple.

Philip was President and Director of Charleston Irrigation Company for twenty years. He was a High Priest at the time of his death.

Philip and Bertha were the parents of eight children: Albert William, Mrs. Clarence (Mary Draper) Widdiss, Mrs. Ernest (Violet Ann) Rasband, Mrs. Wheaton (Vilda Anna) Gibson, Mrs. Sylvan (Adoles) Chiba Shanks, Glen Raymond Reed, Dr. John and Mrs. Lewis L. (Florence) Gath.

Pioneer
1870's
and
1900's

